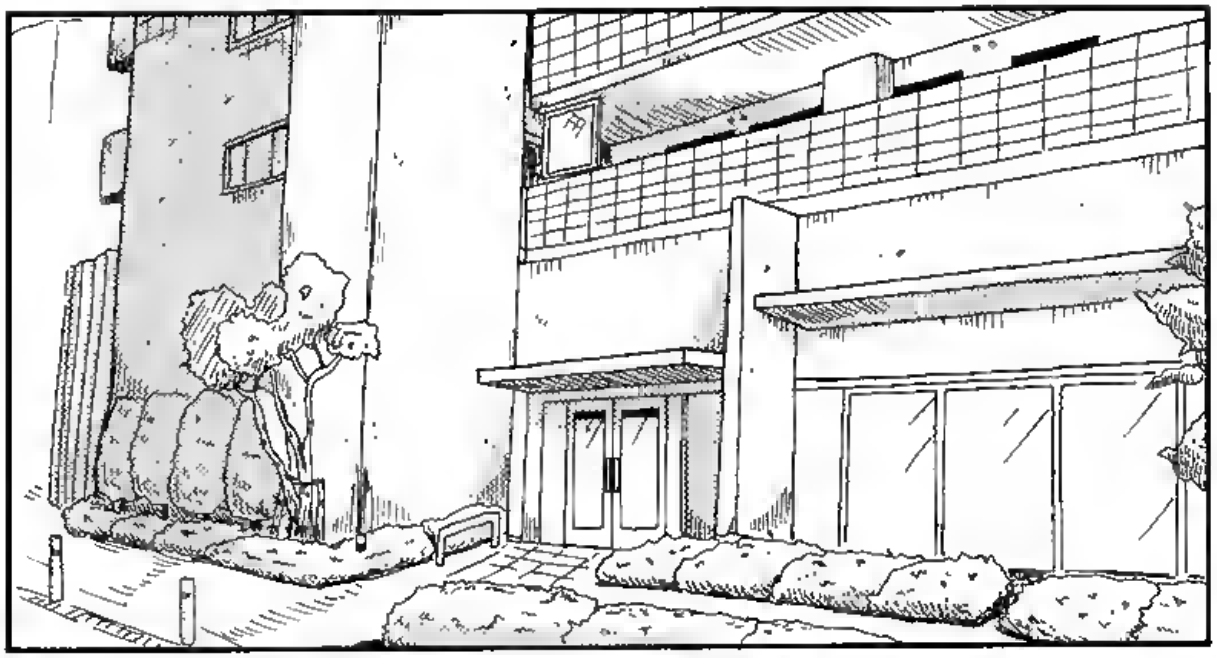
YOU'RE HELPING YOUR BROTHER?
HOW ADMIRABLE.
TAKERU, YOU CAN'T DO THAT.
You're lively.
SILKEN TOFU PLEASE!
No UMM, UH...
BROTHERS!
I'LL GIVE YOU THESE AS EXTRAS.

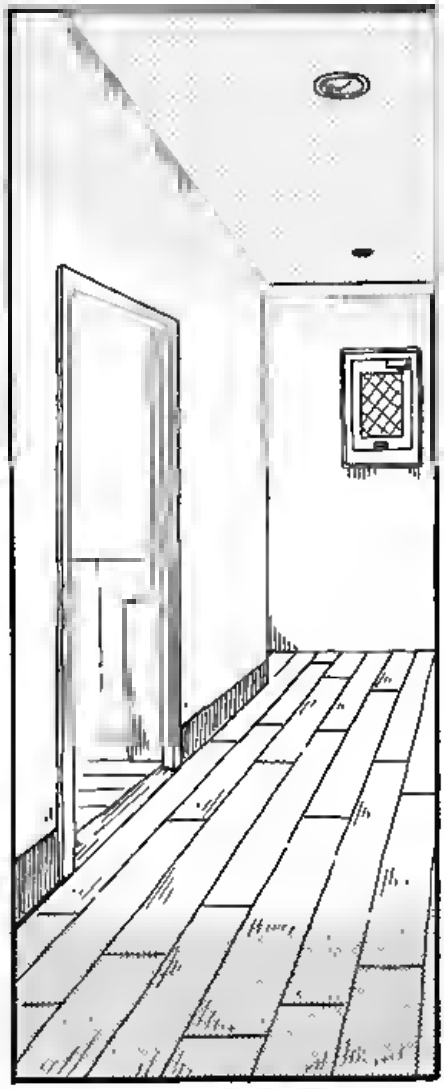
WHEN WE WERE LIKE THAT.

THERE WAS A TIME

step.2



CLATTER



GOOD MORNING...
Mor-ning

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

...WHERE IS EVERYONE?
THEY'RE ALL OUT.
RATTLE
I'LL HAVE WATER.
GOT IT
DO YOU WANT COFFEE?
TEA?
OR JUST WATER?
THANK YOU.
WHY DON'T YOU SIT DOWN?
pooour

Ha
Ha
YOU WOULDN'T WAKE UP NO MATTER WHAT I DID.

DID YOU SLEEP ON THE SOFA?
YEAH

.....

TAKERU...
RATTLE

ABOUT YESTERDAY...
UMM...

I HUMBLY APOLOGIZE.
.....ANY-WAY
THUNK
YOUR HEAD LOOKS AMAZING RIGHT NOW.
Yeah...
MESSY
AH...

IT'S A BIT...
HAZY...
YOU REMEMBER THAT...
.....
SEIICHIROU,
SAY,
DID I DO SOME-THING REALLY BAD?!
DID I FORCE YOU
Or bully
NO-THING HAP-PENED!
EH?!
DO YOU LIKE MEN?
OR DO YOU LIKE WOMEN?

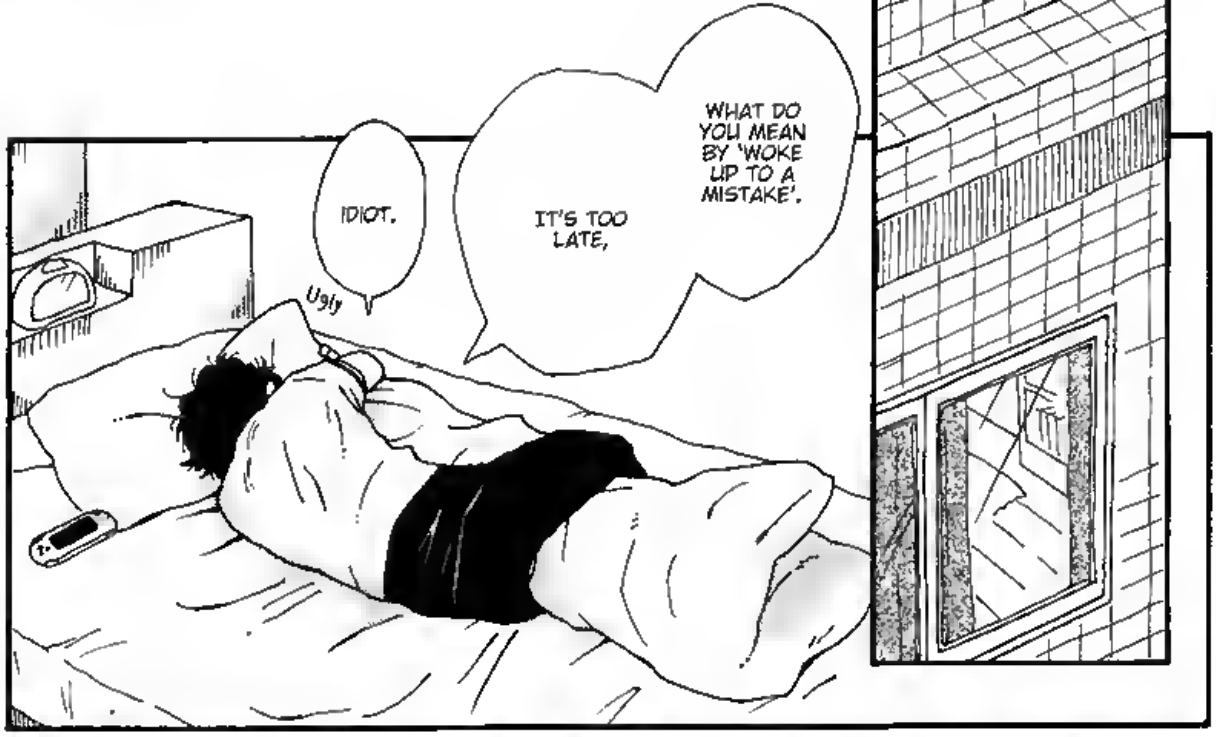
YOU JUST SAID I WAS CUTE
AND THAT YOU LIKED ME.
IT'S NOT...
IT'S REALLY NOT...
A BIG DEAL...
That gave you peace of mind..
AHH...
sigh
I LIKE YOU.
I MEANT IT.
AND
I CAN GO BOTH WAYS.
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S A MAN OR A WOMAN.
Anyone goes

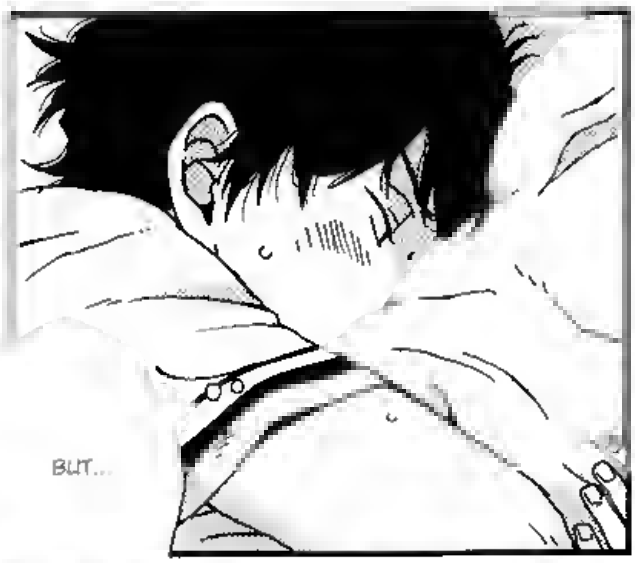
...!
BUT
I AM PERFECTLY AWARE
THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
IF YOU COULD
STOP CONCERNING YOURSELF WITH ME.
THAT WOULD HELP A LOT...
WHY IS HE BEING POLITE...
I REALLY APOLOGIZE
FOR LAST NIGHT.

WHAT THE HELL?

I'M HOME~
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
Thanks, mom!
I BOUGHT A LOT OF STUFF!
I'm so tired.
YOU'RE HERE.
IS IT BAD?
NO, NOPE.
AH!
THAT REMINDS ME...
SHE'S A HAPPY WOMAN.

WAS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT LAST NIGHT?
WHAT WAS?
I HAVE MY METHODS.
His uni is close.
WHY DO YOU KNOW THAT...
SEIICHIROU WAS SO DRUNK
AND I HEARD THAT HE'S A PLAYBOY NOW.
It was bothering me~
DID YOU GUYS WAKE UP TO A MISTAKE OR SOMETHING?
HUH?!
DID YOU REJECT SEIICHIROU AND GET HIM ANGRY?
WE ONLY PLAYED GAMES, UGLY!
Don't call me ugly, shorty!
Well,
I GUESS A GUY WOULDN'T DO.
Kyahahaha
.....


WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY 'WOKE UP TO A MISTAKE'.
IT'S TOO LATE,
IDIOT.
Ugly


BUT...

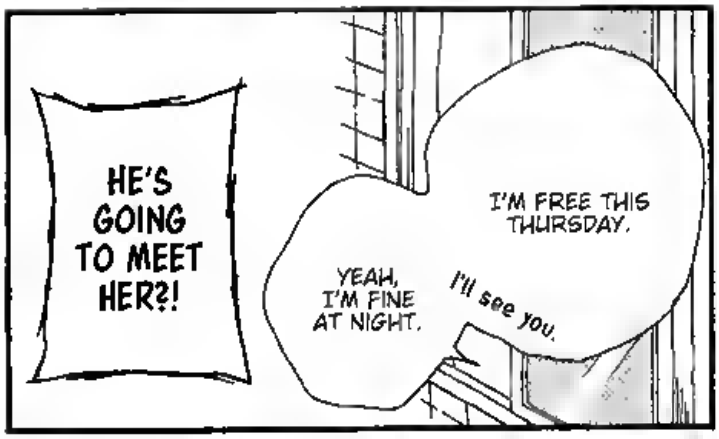
EVEN MY SISTER CALLS HIM A PLAYBOY.
I GUESS SHE DOESN'T KNOW THAT SEIICHIROU GOES FOR GUYS TOO.
Just how much did he play around...

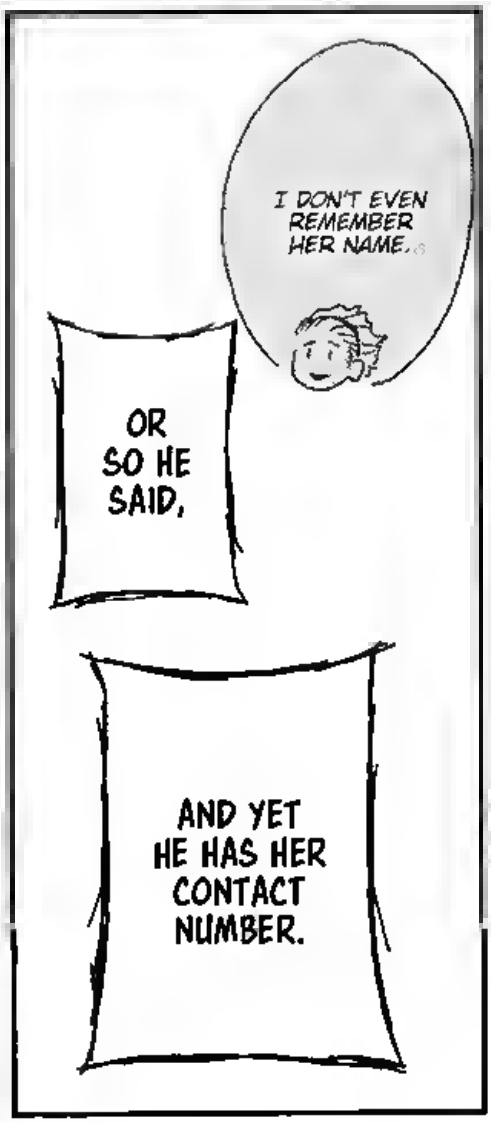
.....
squeeeze

HE SAID HE LIKED ME.

SEIICHIROU'S
VOICE.
Yep yep
RATTLE
IT'S SO HOT...
HE'S AT HIS PARENTS' HOUSE!
AHAHA
YEAH
Ahh
NO, YOU GOT IT WRONG.
HE'S NOT MY BROTHER.
Haha
I was surprised, too.
HE EVEN LEFT HIS WINDOW WIDE OPEN
I'M SORRY ABOUT LAST TIME.
YEAH
Still listening in
He keeps apologizing.

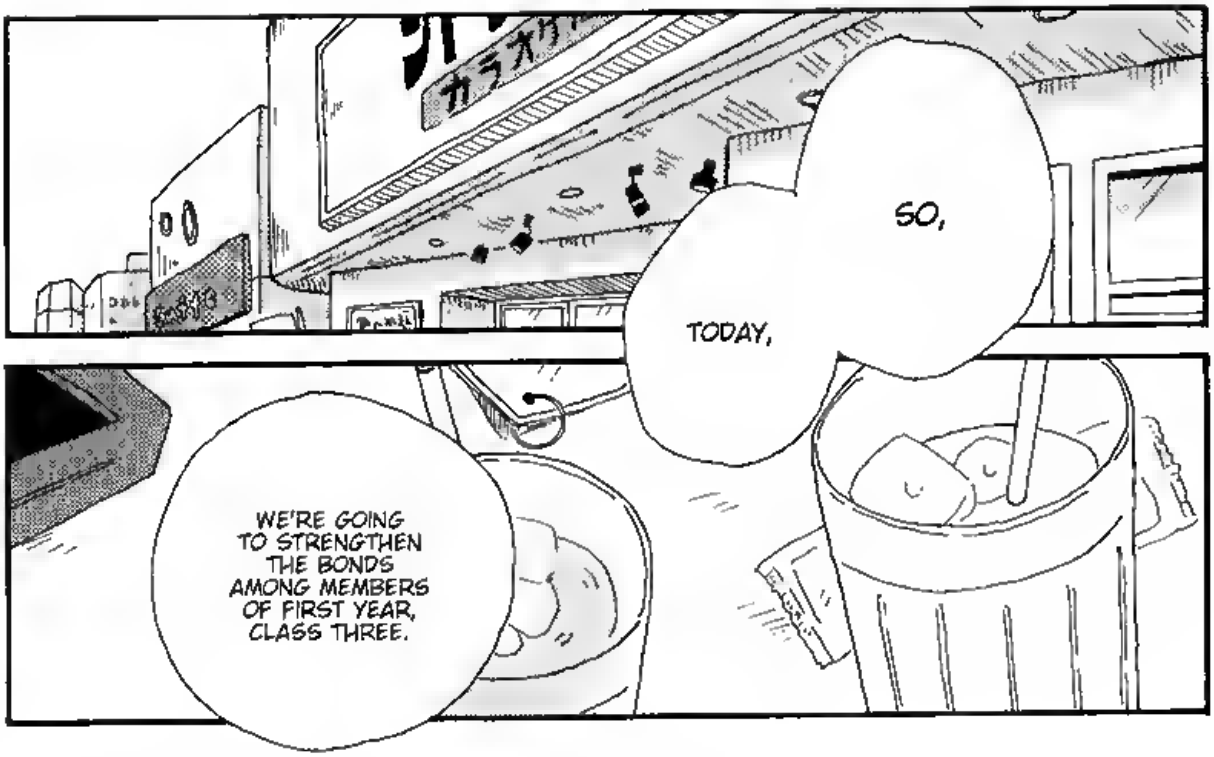
Back then
Yuu?
He's definitely talking to her
He's talking about me.
WITH THE WOMAN BACK THEN...?
HE'S ON THE PHONE
IT CAN'T BE.


HE'S GOING TO MEET HER?!
I'M FREE THIS THURSDAY.
YEAH, I'M FINE AT NIGHT.
I'll see you.


I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER HER NAME...
OR SO HE SAID,
AND YET HE HAS HER CONTACT NUMBER.

BAM
SHOCK

I CAN NEVER UNDERSTAND PEOPLE WHO THINK WITH THEIR DICKS.



What should I sing?
TADAAA! LET'S DO IT BY SINGING!
CHEERS
Cheers!
GORG-EOUS!
GIRLS ARE THE BEST.
IT'S YOUR DREAM COME TRUE, SANO-CHAN.
STOP TALKING AMONGST YOURSELVES!
I'm sorry
HEY YOU, OVER THERE!
Let's party hard!
WHAT? YOU DON'T SEEM UP TO IT, OKA-PI.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
I'M CLEARLY HAVING FUN.

CREAK
MEN
AH
AH
OKAZAKI-KUN, YOUR SINGING WAS AMAZING TOO.
I-
I AM NOT REALLY...
IT'S VERY EXCITING, ISN'T IT?
It's fun
Right?
THAT'S 'CUZ SANO-CHAN IS AMAZING.
In both singing and dancing

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN WANTING TO.
WANT TO
TALK TO YOU MORE.
I ACTUALLY
Aren't you coming in?
WHAT'S THE HOLD UP, OKA-PI?
?
UWA!
Sakurai
Today was fun. I wa
go out
everyon

DON'T LOOK!
GEH!
Kyaaa! Mom!
TAKERU IS EXCHANGING MAILS WITH A GIRL!
HIDE
BUT LIKE,
HOW COME YOU KNOW HIS MAIL ADDRESS?
What
Takeru finally has a romantic interest
DON'T DO ANYTHING UNNECESSARY!
I'LL TELL SEIICHIROU ABOUT THIS.
WELL, THAT'S WEIRD.
HUH...
YOU DON'T?
I asked him last time.
.....

I WANTED TO ASK HIM FOR IT,
BUT NEVER GOT AROUND TO IT.
THEY BOTH KNOW IT.
MY SISTER
AND SOME CASUAL GIRL
We'll remember her
thud
THINGS WENT WEIRD LAST TIME.
AND I HAD THOUGHT THAT
WE WERE GETTING ALONG WELL.
EVERYTHING SEEMS..
MUDDY.

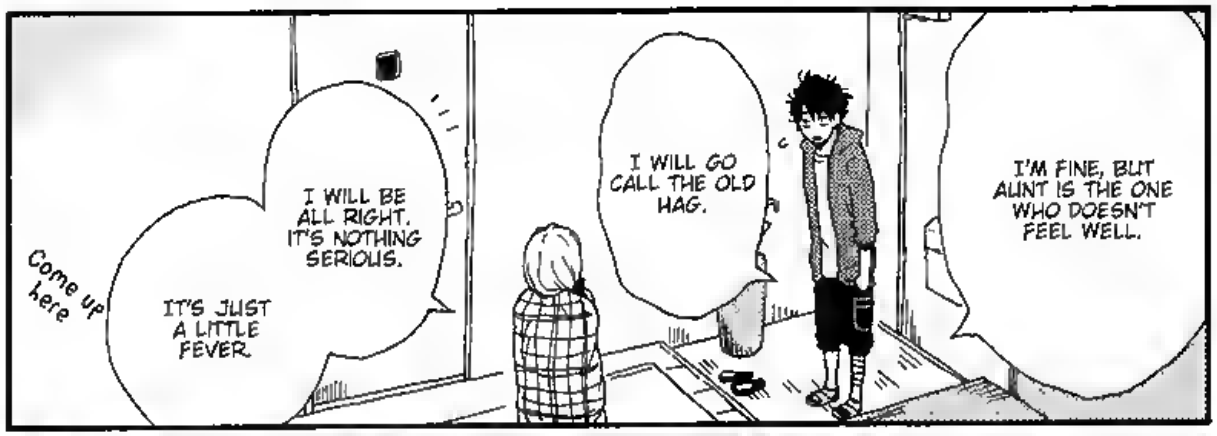
STRIKE
OKAY
AL-RIGHT!
MAKE IT A HOMERUN!
THERE!
Missed!
RUN!
Give it here!
Like I'd let you!
FORMER BASEBALL CLUB MEMBERS SHOULD GO EASY ON US!
You too!
WHOOSH

You were too slow!
SAFE
THAT CLEARED MY MIND.
TCH!
OKAY!
YOU'RE THE MAN!
THE LEEEEAD!
YEEEES!
WOOHOO
NICE ONE!
YEAH
BUT I HEARD A STRANGE SOUND. YOU ALRIGHT?
What are you, a coach?
AH
fling
KYAHAHAHA
YOUR PANTS ARE REALLY TATTERED.
GEH!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
Something hurts.
YOU MUST REALLY GIVE IT YOUR ALL AT PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

Looks fun
It makes it more suspicious when you hide it like that.
Look at the boys go.
Was
BUZZ OFF!
MAYBE THE BACK IS RIPPED TOO.
hide
DING
Sakura
You were amazing earlier, but is your leg injury all right?
CARE TO EXPLAIN?
TAKERU,
WHAT?
SHE WAS WATCHING.
I was so lame.
dirty

Stupid
Stupid
Stupid
YOU'VE ONLY WORN THIS A FEW TIMES...
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT...
HEY, I'M WOUNDED TOO!
THE SIDE
AND THE BACK!
IF YOU GO NEXT DOOR.
AH,
IT'S BETTER IF...
THIS IS WHY THIS OLD HAG IS...
WHY DO I HAVE TO...
YOU'RE THE ONE WEARING THEM.
I'LL MAKE SURE TO GO AND THANK THEM LATER.
中津
THEY TOLD ME
HUH?
THEY HAVE EXTRA UNIFORMS THAT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED.

I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO COME ALL THE WAY HERE.
IS YOUR LEG OKAY?
SO THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE.


Come up here
I WILL BE ALL RIGHT. IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS.
IT'S JUST A LITTLE FEVER.
I WILL GO CALL THE OLD HAG.
I'M FINE, BUT AUNT IS THE ONE WHO DOESN'T FEEL WELL.

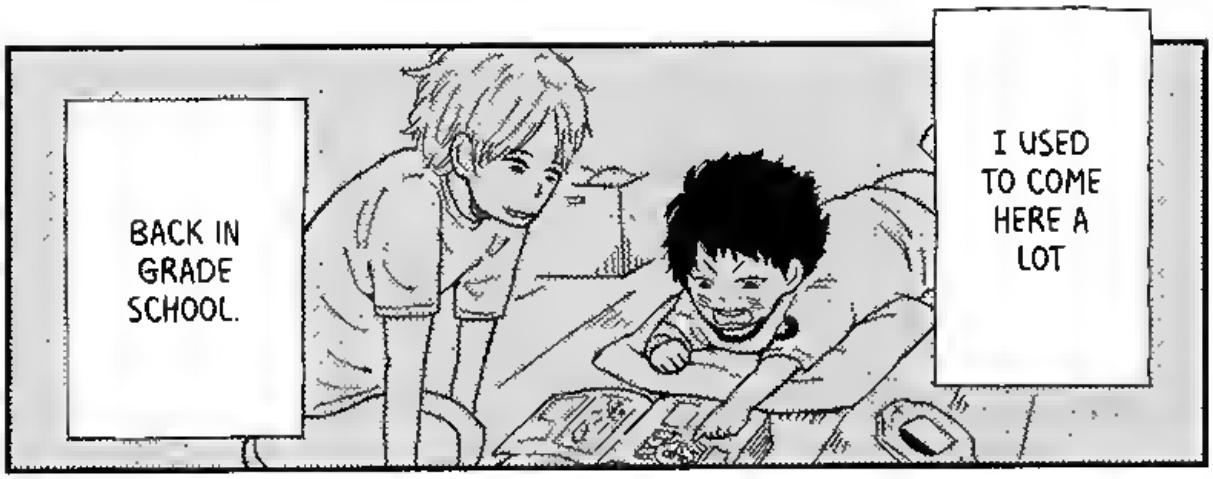
CLOSE

FOR THE MEANTIME, I'LL SEND A MAIL TO THE OLD HAG.

SO LOOK FOR ONE THE FITS YOU.
Thank you.

HIS THINGS ARE MORE OR LESS CLEARED UP,
I'll be intruding

OPEN
close
thudthudthud
Guess not
IS HE HERE...
droop
THIS IS TOO BIG.
BUT STILL,
THIS ROOM TOO.
BEFORE I KNEW IT,
THE BOTH OF US GREW.



HOW NOSTALGIC.

EVERYTHING'S DIFFERENT.

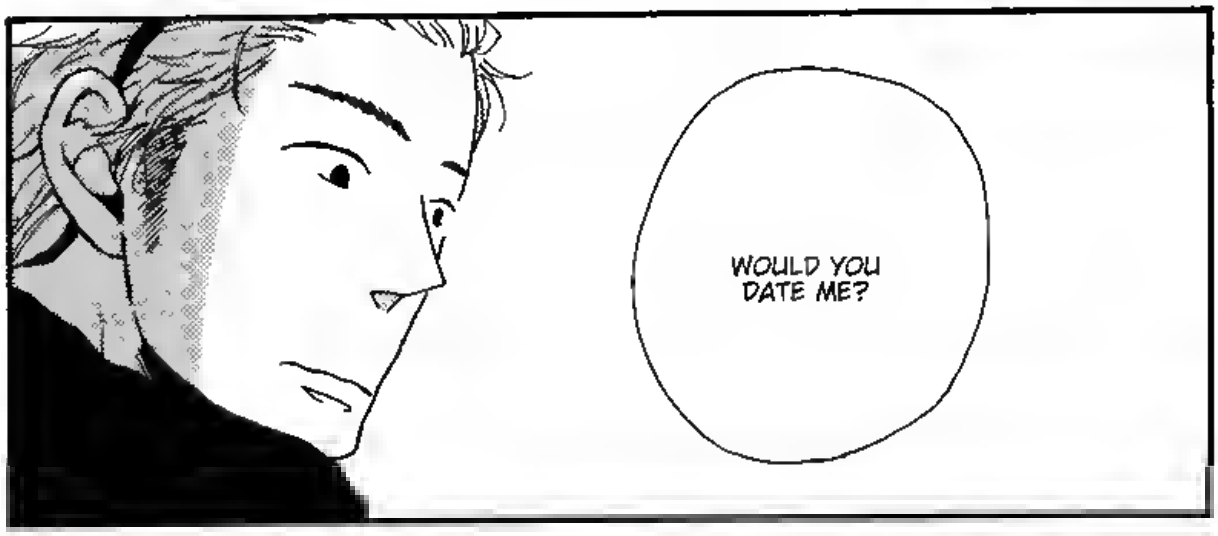
AND I DIDN'T KNOW.

OH, YOU'RE HERE.
COUGS
RATTLE
OH...
H- h- h-
HE DIDN'T SEE ME, RIGHT?
SE...
YOU WERE HOME?!
Uwaaa
I JUST ARRIVED.
MY MOTHER CAUGHT A COLD, SO...
IS THE AUNT FINE?
YEAH,
SHE'S IN BED FOR NOW.

IT'S KINDA NOSTALGIC.
I WAS WEARING THIS UP UNTIL RECENTLY...
FOUND SOMETHING?
IT'S BIG.
IT REALLY IS.
Uhaha
Oh? what happened to your leg?
Are you okay?
.....
MORE MIXERS.
THERE ARE
You sound like you're having fun
IS COLLEGE ANY DIFFERENT FROM HIGH SCHOOL?
HM...
Career consultation?
YET YOU STILL DON'T HAVE A LOVER.
.....
It wasn't a career consultation...

I THINK IT WAS AROUND THIS TIME...
SO HE ACTUALLY HAD A GIRL-FRIEND.
I HAD A GIRLFRIEND WHEN I WAS A HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN.
AFTER THAT, I DIDN'T GET ONE.
I'M STILL NOT SURE
BUT I THINK IT MIGHT HAPPEN...
RECENTLY,
I'VE BEEN EXCHANGING MAILS WITH A GIRL IN MY CLASS.
YOU KNOW,
WE MIGHT GO OUT SOMEDAY.
I FEEL LIKE
WITH THINGS GOING LIKE THIS,

THAT'S GREAT, ISN'T IT?
I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU'D BE POPULAR.
SEIICHIROU,
WHY WON'T YOU GO OUT WITH ANYONE?
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A HUGE PLAYBOY.



step.2●END

AI MO KAWARAZU

BY AYUKAWA HAL

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